

Nevada Fire Alarm Technician (F-Card) Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

How to Use This Guide

This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:

1. Start with a Diagnostic Review

Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.

2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions

Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 - 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.

3. Learn from the Explanations

After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.

4. Track Your Progress

Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.

5. Simulate the Real Exam

Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.

6. Repeat and Review

Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.

There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!

Questions

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- 1. What is the color code for a heat detector rated at 250°F?**
 - A. Red**
 - B. Blue**
 - C. Green**
 - D. Yellow**

- 2. Duct detectors are never required on the return air ducts when?**
 - A. There are system smoke detectors that perform the shutdown function**
 - B. The building has no fire alarm system**
 - C. Duct detectors must always be required**
 - D. The sprinkler system is not present**

- 3. Access to wall-mounted telephone appliances must be at least how wide?**
 - A. 28 inches**
 - B. 32 inches**
 - C. 30 inches**
 - D. 34 inches**

- 4. Which documentation is required for heat detection design in accordance with Section 17.6 of NFPA 72?**
 - A. Fire alarm design report**
 - B. System test plan**
 - C. Maintenance schedule**
 - D. Heat detection design documentation**

- 5. Which NFPA 72 subsection covers testing and maintenance of central station service alarm systems?**
 - A. 14.2.6.4**
 - B. 14.4.7**
 - C. 7.5.3.1**
 - D. 29.9.3 (2)**

- 6. NFPA 72 is the standard for which type of system?**
- A. Fire suppression systems**
 - B. Fire alarm and detection systems**
 - C. Building construction**
 - D. Electrical safety**
- 7. The RAT in fire alarm terminology stands for which of the following?**
- A. Radio Alarm Transmitter**
 - B. Remote Alarm Transmitter**
 - C. Rapid Alarm Transmitter**
 - D. Relay Alarm Transmitter**
- 8. Who is responsible for verifying that all components and functions are installed and operate per the approved plans and sequence of operation?**
- A. The installing contractor**
 - B. The building owner**
 - C. NFPA inspector**
 - D. A qualified and impartial third-party organization**
- 9. Minimum separation for Class A circuit's outbound and return paths in a hallway 9 feet wide?**
- A. 4 feet**
 - B. 2 feet**
 - C. 6 feet**
 - D. 8 feet**
- 10. What is the maximum time allowed for the system to annunciate a failure?**
- A. 100 seconds**
 - B. 200 seconds**
 - C. 300 seconds**
 - D. 400 seconds**

Answers

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1. B
2. A
3. C
4. D
5. B
6. B
7. A
8. D
9. A
10. B

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Explanations

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1. What is the color code for a heat detector rated at 250°F?

- A. Red
- B. Blue**
- C. Green
- D. Yellow

Heat detectors use a fixed temperature rating, and each rating is identified by a color so you can tell at a glance what activation temperature a detector has. For a detector that activates around 250°F, the color used is blue. This helps ensure you install the right device for hot environments, reducing nuisance alarms while still providing protection if a true heat event occurs. The other colors correspond to different ratings, so the blue color tells you this one is the higher 250°F rating.

2. Duct detectors are never required on the return air ducts when?

- A. There are system smoke detectors that perform the shutdown function**
- B. The building has no fire alarm system
- C. Duct detectors must always be required
- D. The sprinkler system is not present

The idea being tested is how HVAC shutdown is handled in a fire event. Duct detectors are used to stop air movement when smoke is detected in the ducts, but if the building already has system-wide smoke detectors that automatically shut down the HVAC, adding separate duct detectors on the return air ducts isn't required. The system smoke detectors provide the necessary shutdown function, preventing further smoke spread through the return path, so duplicating with duct detectors would be redundant and unnecessary. That's why the statement about system smoke detectors performing the shutdown is the correct reason for not needing duct detectors in the return air ducts. The other scenarios don't establish an automatic, code-supported reason to skip duct detectors in the same way, so they don't justify removing them.

3. Access to wall-mounted telephone appliances must be at least how wide?

- A. 28 inches
- B. 32 inches
- C. 30 inches**
- D. 34 inches

The access width is about providing a clear, unobstructed approach for a person in a wheelchair to reach the wall-mounted telephone. The minimum clear width in front of the unit must be 30 inches, so there's enough space to position and use the device during an emergency. Wider clearances (32 or 34 inches) would also meet the requirement, but 30 inches is the smallest width that satisfies it. A width of 28 inches wouldn't provide adequate space for proper approach and maneuvering.

4. Which documentation is required for heat detection design in accordance with Section 17.6 of NFPA 72?

- A. Fire alarm design report**
- B. System test plan**
- C. Maintenance schedule**
- D. Heat detection design documentation**

The main idea here is that NFPA 72 requires a specific design record for heat detection to prove the design will perform as intended. This heat detection design documentation is the formal package that details all decisions and data used to place and configure heat detectors: the type of detectors (fixed temperature or rate-of-rise), where they are located and how densely they are spaced, the coverage they provide, and environmental factors that could affect performance (ambient temperature ranges, humidity, airflow, corrosive or dusty environments). It also covers alarm setpoints, how the heat detectors coordinate with other devices and the fire alarm system, wiring and power considerations, and how the system will be tested and accepted to verify it meets the design intent. Having this document gives the authority having jurisdiction a clear basis to review and approve the design before installation and provides a reference for installation, testing, and future maintenance. Other papers like a broad fire alarm design report, a system test plan for commissioning, or a maintenance schedule do not fulfill this specific heat-detection design documentation requirement.

5. Which NFPA 72 subsection covers testing and maintenance of central station service alarm systems?

- A. 14.2.6.4**
- B. 14.4.7**
- C. 7.5.3.1**
- D. 29.9.3 (2)**

The main idea here is knowing where NFPA 72 assigns the testing and maintenance responsibilities for central station service alarm systems. That area is NFPA 72, Chapter 14, specifically the subsection that covers Central Station Service testing and maintenance. This part outlines how central station monitored systems must be tested and kept in reliable working order, including the procedures to verify that signals from the protected premises are received by the central station, that the communication paths are functioning, and that records and schedules for ITM are kept. It sets the standards for how often tests are performed, who conducts them, what components are checked (such as the signaling path and central station equipment), and how results are documented. The other subsections mentioned address different aspects of fire alarm ITM or other system topics and do not focus on central station service testing and maintenance.

6. NFPA 72 is the standard for which type of system?

- A. Fire suppression systems
- B. Fire alarm and detection systems**
- C. Building construction
- D. Electrical safety

NFPA 72 is the standard that governs fire alarm and detection systems. It covers how these systems should be designed, installed, tested, and maintained, including detectors, fire alarms, notification devices, control panels, and the communications with authorities and occupants. It sets the minimum performance criteria, sequences of operation (alarm, trouble, and normal states), and the required testing and maintenance to ensure the system will perform when a fire occurs. This standard is specific to life-safety fire alarm and signaling, and is separate from fire suppression codes and construction or general electrical safety codes.

7. The RAT in fire alarm terminology stands for which of the following?

- A. Radio Alarm Transmitter**
- B. Remote Alarm Transmitter
- C. Rapid Alarm Transmitter
- D. Relay Alarm Transmitter

Radio Alarm Transmitter is what RAT stands for in fire alarm terminology. It refers to a device that wirelessly transmits alarm signals to a control panel or monitoring station, using radio frequencies rather than a hardwired path. This wireless capability is what defines RAT in many fire alarm systems. The other terms—Remote, Rapid, or Relay Alarm Transmitter—aren't the standard terminology for this acronym, so they don't fit the established usage.

8. Who is responsible for verifying that all components and functions are installed and operate per the approved plans and sequence of operation?

- A. The installing contractor
- B. The building owner
- C. NFPA inspector
- D. A qualified and impartial third-party organization**

Independent commissioning and functional testing is what ensures the fire alarm system truly matches the approved design and runs the sequence of operation as intended. A qualified and impartial third-party organization brings the necessary expertise to verify every component and function, from power supplies and circuits to initiating devices and notification appliances, and to confirm the overall sequence operates correctly under live conditions. This objectivity is crucial because it prevents conflicts of interest that could arise if the installer were the one validating their own work, and it provides documented results for the AHJ and the building owner. The installing contractor is responsible for doing the install per plans, and the building owner has a vested interest, but neither alone provides the independent verification and formal acceptance testing that ensures compliance with the approved design. An NFPA inspector or similar term implies an authority, but the question emphasizes an impartial third-party organization dedicated to commissioning, which is the best fit for this role.

9. Minimum separation for Class A circuit's outbound and return paths in a hallway 9 feet wide?

- A. 4 feet**
- B. 2 feet**
- C. 6 feet**
- D. 8 feet**

The fundamental idea is to prevent a single incident in the hallway from damaging both legs of a Class A signaling circuit by keeping the outbound and return conductors physically apart. In NFPA 72 and typical fire alarm practice, Class A circuits require a minimum separation between the two conductors when they run in parallel in the same space, so a single fault (like mechanical damage, moisture, or a fast-moving object) is less likely to take out both paths at once. The minimum separation is four feet, which the hallway width of nine feet comfortably accommodates. So, four feet is the correct minimum. If the hallway were narrower or space didn't allow four feet, you'd need to route the conductors in separate conduits or channels to maintain separation. The other distances are either not enough to meet the required minimum or exceed what's required for a standard installation.

10. What is the maximum time allowed for the system to annunciate a failure?

- A. 100 seconds**
- B. 200 seconds**
- C. 300 seconds**
- D. 400 seconds**

The key idea here is timing for fault annunciation. Fire alarm systems are required to relay a fault condition to the occupants or building personnel quickly enough to be noticed and addressed, but not so quickly that false alarms or minor glitches cause unnecessary chatter. The standard sets the maximum time to annunciate a failure at 200 seconds, meaning once a fault is detected, the panel should display or output a fault indication within about 3 minutes and 20 seconds. This balance allows the system to verify the fault, process signals, and activate the appropriate annunciators without delaying the warning too long. If the time were as short as 100 seconds, some faults might not be reliably verified; if it were 300 or 400 seconds, the fault could go unaddressed for too long, increasing risk.

Next Steps

Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.

As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.

If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at hello@examzify.com.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

<https://nevadafcard.examzify.com>

We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!

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